Test firing of missiles at Chandipur, Balasore

716. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the frequent postponement of the test firing of the "AGNI" type missile at the interim test range at Chandipur in Balasore district of Orissa is causing misery to the natives of 15 villages near the range during the last two years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the postponement and what steps have been taken to compensate the affected villagers; and

(c) what are the reasons for not setting up a modern hospital in Balasore as contemplated earlier in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Defence Research & Development Organisation is developing and carrying out flight trials of number of missiles. These trials are continuous in nature and it is not in national interest to give details of such launchings before they are carried out.

For certain launchings from Chandipur Range it is necessary to have a safety zone around the launcher requiring temporary shifting of the persons from their houses for a few hours. However, no such launching has been scheduled so far. Statutory notifications required for undertaking such firings are issued and sufficient prior notice is given as per rules.

People required to shift temporarily will be adequately compensated for the inconvenience caused and loss of livelihood. They will also be paid for transportation and food. Temporary tentage accommodation and entertainment etc. will be provided to them. State Govt. is also being paid for providing the necessary health care support to them. In addition to these, other general facilities like construction of 25 tubewells and public convenience, fire brigade support, and locks for sealing of houses will also be provided to the affected people.

(c) A 50-bedded modern hospital is in the advance stages of construction in District Balasore.

Population Growth Targets

717. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per Government projection, as reported in the *Times of India* dated 2nd February, 1989, the population growth targets of 1.9 per cent is not likely to be achieved and if so the reasons of this shortfall;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been failure in R and D work on family planning specially Vaccine promised first by AIIMS and later by NII Scientists; and

(c) if so, what steps Govt. propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Seventh Five Year Plan targets envisage achieving a Birth Rate of 29.1 per 1000 population and Death Rate of 10.4 per 1000 population by the end of the plan i.e., 1990 implying a Natural Growth Rate of 1.87 per cent. Against this, as per latest Sample Registration System estimates of Registrar General, India the Natural Growth Rate of population for India is 2.11 per cent, 2.15 per cent and 2.12 per cent (provisional) for the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 respectively. The Natural Growth Rate has generally remained high due to steeper decline in Death Rate relative to that in Birth Rate. However, the factors responsible for slow decline in Birth Rate are: high mean age of family planning acceptors; low age at marriage; social attitudes, religous beliefs, illiteracy etc.

(b) and (c) Besides the available methods a newly established implant, which is deposited beneath the skin, and which